AUG 0 2 2004

2009

OFFICIAL DOCKET NO. 71738/58

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Appln. No.:

10/028,336

Applicant(s):

Emery W. Dilling

Filed:

December 22, 2001

Title:

PROSTHETIC AORTIC VALVE

Examiner:

Thomas C. Barrett

Art Unit:

3738

Customer No.:

22242

Confirm. No.:

2801

Certificate of Transmission/Mailing

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the USPTO, Fax. No. (703) 872-9302, or deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mall in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on the date shown below:

Date

Karin E. Harden

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE

Hon. Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed March 16, 2004, to which the shortened statutory period for response is being extended contemporaneously herewith until August 16, 2004, please amend the above-identified application in the manner which is set forth hereinafter.